
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MEETING MINUTES

10/14/08

The Board of Selectmen met in the Town Hall, Joseph F. Bilotta Meeting Room as scheduled with Thomas Alonzo, Steven M. deBettencourt, Dave Matthews and CAFO Kerry Speidel present, Paula Bertram and Thomas Mason absent. Meeting opened at 7:04 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Yard Waste Days - The Lunenburg Landfill, off of Youngs Road will be open for consecutive Saturdays October 18th and continuing to November 22nd, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Acceptable material: grass clippings, bark mulch, wood chips, leaves, brush (with a diameter not to exceed 3 inches, unlimited length). Shrubbery and plantings; with the same restrictions. Any container; bags, boxes, barrels, trashcans, tarps, flower pots, etc., must be removed and taken by the resident. No household garbage, trash, or rubbish of any kind will be accepted. No materials within the Landfill area; sand, stone, gravel, etc. are to be given away or sold. Access will be restricted to the disposal area. Commercial landscapers will not be allowed to dump. OPEN TO LUNENBURG RESIDENTS ONLY.

Historical Society Lecture, October 23, 2008 – History of Lunenburg Fire Department – The public is invited to attend a lecture, October 23, at 7:00 P.M. in the Lunenburg Fire Department's lecture hall, 655 Massachusetts Ave., Presented by Chief Scott Glenny and his top ranking deputy, profiling Lunenburg Fire Department's early history up to its current technological excellence. This event presents a highly appropriate time to pay tribute to the Chief and his quick thinking firefighters, whose rapid response to the 911 call, July 25 resulted in containing the flash fire in the upper level of the Lunenburg Historical Society and saving the vast majority of the Society's artifacts. Admission is free and light refreshments will follow the program.

APPOINTMENTS

None

CURRENT BUSINESS

1. CAFO Updates – Kerry reviewed the attached memo to the board regarding the FY09 Budget. Discussed with Finance Committee at their meeting last week the potential of cut backs in state aid due to the uncertainty at the state level and accordingly, she is implementing a spending freeze until the end of January 2009. This information has also been forwarded to all department heads and will be discussed at the staff meeting scheduled for tomorrow. Difficulty is that there are so many unknown's at this point and the revenue that the state's budget was built upon is unknown and their revenue projections have been lower than anticipated. State has close to 10% allocated to the stabilization budget, there numbers are approximately 5% more than what our municipality has allocated for our community's stabilization fund.

Discussed if Question 1, the revocation of the state income tax was passed we'd be looking at about a 20% cut out of the towns budget. Important for people to realize what you are buying at the local level with property taxes and to educate themselves as this will have long reaching effects. Approving this will result in a 40% reduction in state budget.

Kerry would like to hold a "state of the town" meeting with the board for October 30th with members of Finance Committee, School Committee and any other departments that would like to attend. Would be a formal meeting to be televised, powerpoint presentation, board concurred.

2. Minutes - Board of Selectmen Regular and Executive Session for 10/7/08 reviewed and signed.

Warrants - #18 09, 10/14/08 - \$232,860.49 and #8P 09, 10/14/08 - \$659,744.16 reviewed and signed.

3. Action File Issues – Chair questioned if any board members will be able to attend the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Joshua Steven Branham, scheduled for Sunday, November 2nd at 1:00 PM, in the Town Hall.

4. One Day Liquor License – All Alcoholic, 11/14/08, N. Leominster Rod & Gun Club – Annual Meat Raffle – noted that Police Chief has approved and no officers are necessary. Raffle is scheduled from 6:00 PM to 11:00 PM, Steve motion to approve, Dave seconded, voted unanimously.

5. Ayer/Lunenburg/Shirley School Regionalization Planning Board – Intermunicipal Agreement – Board reviewed the following Ayer-Lunenburg-Shirley School Regional Planning Board Inter-municipal Agreement, which describes how the regional planning committee will operate and expend funds.

The Selectmen and Regional Planning Committees of Ayer / Lunenburg and Shirley agree to the following concerning the management of regional school planning funds as authorized by Ch. 40 Section 4A of the Mass. General Laws:

- 1. All Regional Planning Board (hereinafter the "Board") expenses will be shared equally on a one-third basis per town.*
- 2. Each town will forward to the Board's fiscal agent its one-third share as established by the Board periodically.*
- 3. The Town of Ayer will serve as fiscal agent for the Board and have the following responsibilities.*
 - A. Deposit in a separate (budget) account funds forwarded by the towns.*
 - B. Deposit in a second (budget) account funds from third parties, such as the Commonwealth, to meet any special grant conditions.*
 - C. Pay bills on behalf of the board from the appropriate account in accordance with state law.*
 - D. Maintain appropriate financial records and provide financial reports quarterly to the board and the financial officer of each town. Upon dissolution of the Board and after the payment of all bills / all remaining local funds shall be returned to the towns in equal shares.*
- 4. Nothing in this agreement shall prohibit any town from expending its own funds on expenses related to regionalization on behalf of its town alone.*

Dave motion to approve, Steve seconded, vote unanimously.

6. Acceptance of Gifts – Ritter Building – CAFO presented the attached memo on gifts for the Ritter Building Renovation project and informed the board that in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, §53A ½ the Board of Selectmen must approve acceptance of the gifts. Tom entertain motion to accept, Steve so moved, Dave seconded voted unanimously. Letters of appreciation to be sent to both companies for their gifts to the town.

7. Halloween – Trick or Treat – Tom entertain motion to set hours of trick or treat for Friday, October 31st from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Steve so moved, Dave seconded approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Committee Updates -

- Dave - Advisory Committee for the School Study toured High School and met with Principal Barney to discuss impacts and to get general information should we lose Shirley students or decide not regionalize.
- Steve – Sewer Commission has met several times to determine the outline of the sewer district, taking care of the needs area, what is here now and what the total needs are. They have been identifying the small lots, high ground water and a matter of refining with the engineer and need to establish a bylaw for town meeting. Intent is to have articles for the Annual Town Meeting on the sewer district and the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) as the commission and engineers are in the last stages of the CWMP.
- Tom - Charter Review one last meeting, they have written the legislation that is to be submitted this fall as written by Charter attorney. No change in the Charter, just asking for special legislation to get these changes.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS / REAPPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS

1. Council on Aging Director, Emergency Management Director -

CAFO – referred to the letter recommending that Chief Glennly be appointed as the Emergency Management Director for the term to expire June 30, 2009 without additional compensation. Per the Charter this is a CAFO appointment, Dave motion to approve the appointment of Chief Glennly as Emergency Management Director, Steve seconded, voted unanimously.

Council on Aging Director, CAFO – believed that this appointment fell under the Charter Section 4 -2(d) however; it actually falls under the board's appointment per Charter Section 3-2(d). Two rounds of interviews were conducted and based upon these two, it was unanimously determined that Doreen Noble was the best-suited candidate. Dave motioned to appoint Doreen Noble as the Council on Aging Director, Steve seconded, voted unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Being no further business board voted unanimously to adjourn Regular Session at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Williams, Chief Administrative Assistant
Board of Selectmen